



## **SMU GLOBAL SUMMER PROGRAMME 2018**

### **THE LAW AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA: DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES**

**Course Code: XXXX**

**Course Title: THE LAW AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA:  
DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES**

Instructor : WARREN B CHIK

Title : ASSOC PROF

Email : warrenchik@smu.edu.sg

Date Submitted : 06.12.2017

#### **PRE--REQUISITES**

None. As students are not expected to have a legal background and are expected to be from all disciplines (and jurisdictions), the legal content will be general and as such the course will not be useful to or suitable for prospective or current Singapore (i.e. local) undergraduate or postgraduate law students only.

#### **GRADING BASIS**

Graded based on coursework, assignments and projects (see below).

#### **COURSE UNIT**

1 CU

#### **FIRST OFFERING TERM**

Academic Year: 2018

Academic Term: Modified Term 3B

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

See below.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants will be introduced to the many legal issues and problems that arise from and relate to modern developments in Information and Communications Technology. ICT is changing the socio-economic environment and the way we behave and transact on a global scale. Terms such as “the gig economy”, “disruptive innovations”, “big data”, “social media” and “the Internet of Things” describe some of these changes.

In relation to the law in this area, Asia has only more recently begun to catch up on the laws to deal with these issues. For example, Singapore has released many new and amended laws within the last decade alone that relate to infocomm developments. More recent amendments include changes to the Electronic Transactions Act of 2010 relating to e-contracts, e-signature and intermediary liability; the enactment of the Personal Data Protection Act in 2012 relating to data protection, the do-not-call registry and the Spam Control Act; changes to content regulations, specifically the class licensing regulations in 2013; the Protection from Harassment Act of 2014 and amendments to the Copyright Act in 2014 and 2016. In 2018, the Singapore legislature is expected to produce more new laws to deal with the fake news phenomenon and electric payment systems as well as in the areas of cybersecurity, electronic transactions and data protection.

Other than the legal changes in Singapore, the latest trends and developments in other jurisdictions, with a focus on the Asian region, will be considered where relevant.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- ☐ Understand the role and function of law and the legal system to developments in information technology.
- ☐ Understand and be able to identify the legal issues relating to any infocomm transaction.
- ☐ Have a general idea of the legal rights and liabilities relating to the different types of laws covered in the course.
- ☐ Have a greater appreciation of the complexity of the digitized society and economy as well as the challenges ahead.

## PRE--REQUISITES

None.

## RECOMMENDED TEXT AND READINGS

Due to the rapid pace of development in the law in some areas of analysis and the nascent state of law in others, there will not be a prescribed textbook. Instead, students will be given instructions and pre-assigned readings via a dedicated ICT Law Blog within a reasonable time before each lesson. Students need only refer to the SMU eLearn website for administrative information such as the Project Schedule and the Grade Book.

## ASSESSMENT METHOD

- |                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Class Participation       | 20% |
| 2. Individual Research Paper | 40% |
| 3. Group Assignment          | 40% |

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to complete assigned reading materials including the legislative provisions and/or cases that are indicated as required reading before each class, and to be prepared to discuss and examine the materials in class.

Grading for class participation is not solely based on the frequency of participation but quality of meaningful inputs in the discussions.

The individual research paper and group assignment will be used to assess (and hone) the research and writing skills of the participant and the ability to work in a team in a presentation that will test his/her skills of reasoning and advocacy respectively.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

SESSION	TOPIC
1	Introduction to the Law and Legal Systems Globally, in Asia and Singapore Introduction to Information and Communications Technology and the Law
2	Free Speech & Content Regulations in Asia
3	The Domain Name Regime in ICANN and Asian countries
4	Privacy and Data Protection in Asia
5	Issues and Solutions Relating to Digital Marketing in Asia
6	Electronic Contracts, Signature and Records
7	Electronic Crime and Cybercrime Laws Developments in Cybersecurity Law
8	Electronic Forms of Harassment and Cyberstalking laws Online Defamation and False Information
9	Disruptive Innovations and Internet Intermediaries Law Copyright Law and New Technology
10	Group Presentation: Fake News Project
11	Group Presentation: Data Protection Project
12	Group Presentation: Internet Intermediaries Project